

PATENT Attorney Docket No: 101-0053-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Art Unit: 3764

Gary K. Michelson, M.D.

Examiner: Brown, M.

Serial No: 08/480,908

Filed:

June 7, 1995

For:

THREADED FRUSTO-CONICAL

INTERBODY SPINAL FUSION IMPLANTS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING VIA U.S. EXPRESS MAIL 'Express Mail" Mailing Label No. EL399233465US Date of Deposit: March 20, 2000

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that

 \boxtimes Transmittal letter

冈 Reply to Office Action

Ø Request for Withdrawal of Finality

X Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and PTO Form 1449

Check in the amount of \$1,560.00 (\$870.00 for a three month extension of time and 冈 \$690.00 for Request for Withdrawal of Finality)

Ø Return postcard

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service with sufficient postage under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to:

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: March 20, 2000

14500 Avion Parkway, Suite 300

Chantilly, VA 20151-1011 Telephone: 703-679-9300 Facsimile: 703-679-9303

Lisa K. Robbins

Name of person mailing papers

Signature



PATENT 101.0053-00000

Express Mail Label No. EL399233465US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit:

3764

Examiner: Brown, M.

In re application of:

Gary K. Michelson, M.D.

Serial No:

08/480,908

Filed: June 7, 1995

For:

THREADED FRUSTO-CONICAL

INTERBODY SPINAL FUSION

IMPLANTS

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.129

This application was filed prior to June 8, 1995 and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to earlier filed application Serial No. 07/205,935 filed June 13, 1988, now U.S. Patent No. 5,015,247. A copy of the official Filing Receipt for the instant application is enclosed as "Exhibit A" hereto for the Examiner's convenience. Taking into account the references made to earlier filed applications under 35 U.S.C. § 120, this application has been pending for more than two years as of June 8, 1995, has not been abandoned, and no appeal brief has been filed.

Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a), Applicant is entitled to have a first submission entered and considered on the merits after final rejection. Applicant respectfully requests that the finality of the Office Action dated October 1, 1999 be withdrawn and that the amendment submitted herewith be entered and considered on the merits. The fee set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(r) is enclosed.

3 80-00 417

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-1066. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for in the papers accompanying this response, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Should you have any further questions, please contact the undersigned directly.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARD LLP

Date: March **20**, 2000

Amedeo F. Ferraro

Registration No. 37,129 Attorney for Applicant(s)

14500 Avion Parkway, Suite 300 Chantilly, Virginia 20151-1101 Telephone: 703-679-9300

Facsimile: 703-679-9303

3-23-0 O

FORM PTO-1083

101.0053-00000 Express Mail No.: EL399233465US

ED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re application of: | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Gary K. Michelson, M.D. | | | | | |
| Serial No: 08/480,908 | | | | | |
| Filed: June 7, 1995 | | | | | |
| For: THREADED FRUSTO-CONICAL | | | | | |
| INTERBODY SPINAL FUSION | | | | | |
| IMPLANTS | | | | | |

Art Unit: 3764 Examiner: Brown, M.

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

 \boxtimes Request for Withdrawal of Finality.

Change of correspondence address.

 \boxtimes Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form 1449

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

| | (Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | | (Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | | (Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA* | LG/SM \$ ENTITY FEE | | ADD'L FEE DUE | |
|--|---|-----|---|-----|-------------------------------|------------------------|------|------------------|---|
| TOTAL CLAIMS FEE | 146 | - | 146 | ** | 0 | LG=\$18 SM=\$9 | \$18 | \$ | 0 |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE | 6 | 1-1 | 6 | *** | 0 | LG=\$78 SM=\$39 | \$78 | \$ | 0 |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$260 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$130 | | | | | | | | \$ | 0 |
| | | | | | | т | OTAL | \$ | 0 |

If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

A check in the amount of \$ 0 to cover the additional claims fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

 \boxtimes A check in the amount of \$_1,560.00 _{\text{to cover}}\$ to cover the \$870.00 three-month extension of time fee and \$690.00 Request for Withdrawal of Finality fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

 \boxtimes The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1066. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims

Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

MARTIN & FERRARO LILP Date: March 20 2000

Ferlaro tedistration No. 37,129 Actorney for Applicant(s) 14500 Avion Parkway, Suite 300

Chantilly, VA 20151-1101 Telephone: 703-679-9300 Facsimile: 703-679-9303

03/24/2000 STEFERRA 00000051

22